

A NOTE ON THE OCCURRENCE OF *CLEONUS PIGER*  
(SCOP.) A EUROPEAN WEEVIL,  
NEAR OTTAWA, ONTARIO

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It seems worthwhile at this time to publish a further summary account pertaining to the known distribution in America of the large European weevil *Cleonus piger* (Scop.). The species was first found in North America at Branchport in New York State by Crosby and Blauvelt in 1929 (1930, Ent. News, 41:164). Brown (1940, Canad. Ent. 72:77) records a single specimen, taken in 1933, from Cascaedia, Quebec, which is situated near the southern shore of the Gaspé peninsula, and many specimens taken at Oswego, N. Y., in 1935. Hicks (1947, Canad. Ent. 79:119) reports one specimen collected by Mrs. G. Henderson at St. Catharines in the Niagara peninsula in 1942, and large numbers of these weevils taken on their foodplant, Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense* (L.) Scop.) near Montreal in 1946. Also in the same note, one specimen is recorded from Ottawa in 1946. Finally, a single specimen was picked up unexpectedly by a young student, F. DiLabio, near Blackburn, Ontario, about seven miles east of Ottawa, on May 30, 1948.

The finding of two more specimens on the sidewalk leading into the Central Experimental Farm on the outskirts of Ottawa aroused some interest. An investigation of the ground adjacent to the walk revealed four adults clinging to the leaves of Canada thistle. The beetles were taken one by one from young individual plants after considerable searching on June 4, 1948, when the temperature was about 85°F. It was not determined whether any leaves had been chewed by the weevils as they dropped quickly to the ground on being approached. Later, on July 27, a specimen was beaten from a hawthorn tree in the farm grounds.

Representative specimens from all the localities mentioned have been deposited in the Canadian National Collection.